

11.12 LEARN & SERVE – HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher Education Programs

Learn and Serve America Higher Education grants are primarily intended to support campus-based service-learning programs that directly and demonstrably benefit both the community served and the participants who serve. Individual institutions or consortia of higher education institutions compete for grants to implement service-learning programs designed to engage students, faculty, staff and other volunteers in service to the local community. Funds support training, course development, curricular and co-curricular service by students, activities to strengthen the ability of colleges to support student service, and support for community service Federal Work-Study programs.



In awarding these grants, the Corporation aims to achieve four main objectives:

- Enhance students' academic learning, their sense of social responsibility, and their civic skills through service-learning;
- Increase the number, quality, and sustainability of opportunities for students to serve by strengthening infrastructure and building capacity within and across the nation's institutions of higher education;
- Strengthen the leadership and instructional capacity of teachers at the elementary, secondary, and postsecondary levels, with respect to service-learning; and
- Engage participants in meeting the unmet educational, public safety, human, and environmental needs of communities.

Individual Institution Grants

Individual institution grants are awarded to the most innovative and replicable programs. Individual institution programs are intended to integrate community service or service-learning into the life of a single institution – across an entire department, a school, in the core curriculum, throughout co-curricular activities, or throughout the entire institution.

Grantees form partnerships among schools (public and private), community agencies, traditional student groups, faith-based institutions and/or other youth-serving organizations to determine and meet community needs.

Consortia Grants

Consortia grants promote not only the spread of community service and service-learning, but also the deepening of those efforts across the curriculum and beyond. Consortia programs function as intermediary organizations which may make subgrants for new programs, conduct research in a number of sites, or deliver training and technical assistance with clear specific expectations to a specific target population. Grantees build upon proven strategies of integrating community service and service-learning in the curriculum and campus culture, while adapting to the institution's and community's unique environment.